

The Athens Post.

BY SAM. P. IVINS.

ATHENS, TENN., FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1857.

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TERMS:
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THE POST.

ATHENS, FRIDAY, OCT. 9, 1857.

THE FREE BANKS.—The following article about the Free Banks is copied from the Nashville News. Its statements are worthy the attention of all who have notes on those institutions:

Free Banks.—By the tabular statement given in another place it will be seen that on the first of July last the Free Banks of this State had in circulation, \$1,193,670; Specie, \$283,100.

Such has been the demand for specie and exchange since the first of July, that it is reasonable to presume that the notes in circulation of the Free Banks have considerably diminished since that time—say \$300,000. Deducting this from the amount then in circulation, and estimating the amount of specie they have now on hand, and it may fairly be assumed that the whole amount of their circulation now outstanding, over and above the specie they have on hand, is not above some six or seven hundred thousand dollars. For the guaranty and ultimate redemption of this amount, they have deposited with the Comptroller of the Treasury bonds of the State of Tennessee exceeding by ten per cent. the amount of their notes in circulation. Can any note-holder, therefore, of these Free Banks be in any danger of losing any thing by them? We should say clearly not. We are of opinion that the bonds of the State held on deposit by them, at no distant day, be amply sufficient to redeem their notes in full.

LAND SPECULATIONS.—As we have before remarked, there has been too much speculation in Western lands by non-residents. The results are before the world, and are only the counterpart of what took place twenty years ago, as a result of Eastern land speculation. Happily for the South, we have not partaken to a great extent of this land buying mania, and are likely only to be affected in a remote degree. However little difference we may usually imagine exists between outside speculations and regular, legitimate business transactions, there is, nevertheless, a very wide distinction, and fortunate indeed is the man or the community who is able to resist all temptation to wander from the paths of legitimate business operations.

THE BOLT CASE.—The Memphis Eagle and Enquirer of Tuesday says—

"The final disposition of this case by Judge Fitzgerald is so strictly right and proper, that, notwithstanding whatever opinions may be entertained of the law of habeas corpus, as it exists in Tennessee, or this Judge's construction of it, no one will now question his integrity of purpose."

He has issued a writ to Mr. Sheriff Felts, and made it returnable before Judge McKernan, at Memphis, on the 12th day of October next. We are gratified at the result for two reasons: In the first place we believe Judge McKernan will deal justly with the prisoner; and secondly, it will afford the citizens an opportunity to vindicate themselves from the charge of being a lawless mob, regardless of the law, and wreaking vengeance upon all who incur their displeasure."

GEN. HASKELL.—The friends of this gentleman have had him conveyed to the Lexington (Ky.) Lunatic Asylum. The Louisville Courier of Tuesday says—

"He passed through this city on Friday last, in charge of friends, on his way to the Lunatic Asylum at Lexington. While in the omnibus cars he arose and in the most eloquent and pathetic terms appealed to the gallant Kentuckians, among whom he was, to protect him from the relentless enemies he imagined were pursuing him. He became so excited and violent that his friends were forced to confine him."

LARGE SALES OF PUBLIC LANDS.—The President is said to have signed proclamations for the sale of two and a half millions of acres of the public domain in California; near four hundred and fifty thousand acres in Missouri, and the unlocated tracts in the Sioux half-breed reservation on Lake Pavin, in the territory of Minnesota. These sales, in California, will take place during the month of May next, and in Missouri and Minnesota in March next.

A PARALLEL.—Of the great loss of life on the Central America, the Philadelphia Press says:

"The only parallel within our memory is that of the Amphitrite off the coast of France over twenty-five years ago, with about eight hundred convicts on board, who perished in a sudden squall, the greater part of them being hand-cuffed and linked two and two with fetters, and unable to make any effort to save themselves."

The Northern Bank of Tennessee, included in our yesterday's list of discredited banks, has satisfied all the banks of this city of its solvency, and we understand its notes will be received by them today.—Nashville Patriot.

ONE OF THE REASONS.—During the May anniversary at New York, the following dialogue was overheard between two of the newsmen—

"I say, Jimmy, what is the meaning of so many preachers being here all together?"

"Why," answered Jim, "they always meet here once a year to exchange sermons with each other."

On the 8th of August Mr. John O'Day, a compositor in the office of the Democrat, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, was killed by lightning while working at his case.

MOVEMENTS OF WESTERN PRODUCE.

It is obvious (says the Baltimore American) that real and permanent relief from the monetary pressure, now felt generally and with more or less severity in all our commercial centres, can only be expected through the prompt and general movement of western produce to the sea-board. The wheat of the West, now ready or nearly ready for market, is the substantial means of liquidation to which the country must look for the payment of its debts, the re-establishment of confidence, and the restoration of the equilibrium of trade now so sadly, and also unnecessarily, disturbed. After the wheat will come the corn, then the cotton and the provision crops of the country to keep up the activity of a system of business exchanges necessary to the vitality of trade. Wheat, however, is now the resource at hand and the disposition and means to make it available should be looked for. Place it in the markets of the Atlantic seaboard and the process of general liquidation will be immediately commenced, and be kept up by the gradual coming forward of the other products of the country, the substantial wealth which it admitted abundant crops have placed in its possession. The producer will then be able to discharge his indebtedness to his local creditor, the latter will pay up to the Atlantic cities, and, sending that produce on to Europe, will re-establish the current of trade, give activity to our mercantile transactions, employment to our ships, and in the net of demonstrating an ability to do something, accomplish all that is needed.

Unhappily the distrust existing has had the effect to keep back the produce of the interior, whilst there is also a tendency on the part of farmers to hold on in the hope of better prices at a later season. We think that this effect is calculated to exaggerate the evil it fears, whilst the tendency to hold back will in the end defeat itself. If our Western shippers, in a distrustful mood, hold back to see first "who is going to break," they may find that in withholding from the East the means of substantial liquidation, disaster will become general, and prices under the influence of panic go below what is desirable of them for or others. A like effect must result from keeping their products away from market. The crops, it is admitted, are quite equal to the wants of the country and the demand likely to come from abroad. If the mass of the grain crop is held back the result must be beneficial only to the few who have the sagacity to come forward and secure the best prices now, whilst the greater number, catching the infection that will arise and joining in the rush that must ensue, will be thrown upon a falling and overstocked market. The truth is that the system of holding back, of forcing the prices by a simulated scarcity, partakes of the nature of speculation, and cannot be free from its dangers. The few, more astute or more fortunate, make, the greater number lose.

The relief which the country now wants, we repeat, is an early availability of its productive resources, and to effect this object should be the business of the press in acting upon public sentiment, and of our merchants and banks in affording the necessary facilities. Let the necessary and proper inducements be used to bring the wheat crop promptly to market, and we will begin immediately to feel its recuperating effect and to see the way out of our difficulties. The freight returns of our railroads are, at present, the true thermometers of our condition, and we must look to them to learn where we are and what are our prospects.

MONEY PANICS.—Money panics, we believe, are confined exclusively to this country. They result from the over issue of bank paper, and the too liberal extension of the credit system. Sometimes a stringency occurs in the money markets of the old world, but there is never anything like a panic. The Bank of France issues no bill for less than 100 francs—about 18 dollars of our money. The Bank of England issues none for less than 25—which is about twenty-five dollars American currency. The circulating medium, therefore, in the ordinary transactions of trade, consists of gold and silver. No such thing is known among them as a run upon the Banks, or a panic in the money market.

HEAVY DEFECTIONS.—We were in hopes that, even though we were forced to hope from the monetary panic created in New York, to some extent, we would yet be spared the pain of seeing that dreadful epidemic—defauling cashiers—spread to the South. The following from the Augusta Chronicle and Sentinel of Sunday, indicates, however, that we are to be disappointed in such reasonable hopes:

We learned yesterday that W. H. Bartlett, Teller in the Southwestern Railroad Bank, at Charleston, had proved a defaulter in the sum of \$60,000. He has left city. Mr. Miller, a teller in the Bank of the State, also at Charleston, we learn, is a defaulter to the amount of \$20,000.

Since writing the above, we have been informed that Mr. Bartlett has been arrested in Wilmington, N. C., and a large portion (\$33,000) recovered.

OLD AND POOR.—The Boston Courier thus touchingly expresses a great truth:

"It was formerly our fortune—not an enviable one—to administer the insolvent law. An old man, who came under our jurisdiction, once said to us: 'It is hard to be old and poor.' It was a simple remark; but the tone and look gave it pathos and significance; and how sadly, painfully true it is! The young man can confront fortune, the stone which he flings at him he can pick up and set as a jewel in his crest; but the old man falls under the blow. Rejoice, then, man of genius, in thy genius! O pure in heart, rejoice in thy purity! O young man, rejoice in thy youth; for time and thou are good against any two."

TRUTHS FOR THE TIMES.

The New York Express says: The great business world is just now undergoing one of those violent periodical convulsions, which—proceeding from a variety of sources, to a general derangement of our monetary and mercantile system—an overruling Providence would seem to order—as He orders all other things—for our good; and it is to be regretted that so few among us will consent to contemplate it in that light. For then, the "adversity" that is now at our doors, would have its "sweet uses," and we should be all the more disposed to submit, with uncomplaining patience, to misfortunes which—say what we will—are in the main, of our own creation. As it is, however, men are too much inclined to take a desponding view of their individual disasters—and repine, like misanthropes, over consequences, the causes of which, a little self-examination would show themselves to have been instrumental in bringing about. Instead of every man laying his reverses in business at his neighbor's door—and referring all his unhappiness, or his losses, to some Mordred sitting at the king's gate—is it not an infinitely better philosophy to withdraw the plea of not guilty—and confess judgment at once—that is, own up, that we have all been living "too fast" and "too high,"—we have been spending more than we have earned, subsisting too long on our wits, instead of the slower but surer returns of unpretending industry—been trusting too much to our genius for speculation, and but too little to the more solid resources of regular trade. Making haste to get rich, we are all of a sudden become poor. There are certain general maxims which govern the business relations of life, which cannot be transgressed or despised without entailing as sure a retribution as that which follows the violation of the moral law. Not to live beyond one's means, is one of those maxims—and not to embark too largely in business, upon borrowed capital, is another. Upon the violation of these maxims—we had almost said, these commandments—hangs all, or nearly all, our present embarrassments. Ever since the discovery of the gold mines of California, a spirit of extravagance has grown up among us, which has manifested itself in a thousand fantastic shapes—leading to "wasteful and ridiculous excess" in all our great cities—and to wild land speculations, suppositions, railroads, and a multitude of other unproductive absorbers of capital in the country. Here, we are no longer content to live in a dwelling of modest brick—made by laborers near by on the North River. Nothing but marble for stores down town, and pillared palaces of freestone, up town. Outside show bespeaks inside extravagance; but, as we cannot penetrate the interior of those dual palaces, which have sprung up as if by magic during the few years past, we have only to turn to the Custom House statistics (figures that don't lie) to see, that we have been buying some "twenty-nine millions of dollars worth of silks" during the last twelve months, and "everything else in proportion." Our bills for foreign luxuries of all sorts have in fact been run up higher than ever before—and large as our income has been from the great goldcoast of the Pacific, our extravagances have outstripped it, and brought us at last, not to the brink of, but right over into, the precipice of an almost universal bankruptcy. The fall, though severe, is happily not fatal—for a young nation like this, with its unbounded resources, multiplying every year—is a hard country to ruin, much less to kill. The blow indeed may prove a real benefit to us in the end, if we will but learn to study the lessons it teaches, and henceforth apply them to the practice of every day life.

In speaking of personal and family extravagances, of course, we do but touch an outer crust of the big shell that is bursting all around us—because disaster so wide spread as that which is now sweeping over the land is the net product, not of one cause, nor two but of many; all impelled, however, by the same spirit of unchecked extravagance, to which, in only one of its prominent phases, here, we have alluded. Yet New York city—"fast" as it is, and has been—has rather lagged behind than run ahead of the rest of the country—for, while Banks are breaking half a dozen at a time, east, south and west of us—our stand, and are like to stand firm, in solid phalanx; at the same time that suspensions in mercantile circles here are relatively fewer than elsewhere. What is needed now, then—as first steps to recover from this blow—are, retrenchment and reform—more moderate notions of living—reduction of unnecessary expenditures—less reliance upon credit—contentment with smaller profits—less "speculation" and fever-speculators—in short, to sum up—less haste to get rich, and a higher standard of business morals, and morals of all kinds—all around. Nothing else will do.

A TOUCHING DUTY.—Mr. Payne, of California, to whom Capt. Herndon lent his watch, has just executed that painful duty, and the watch is now in Mrs. Herndon's possession—the last, and relic of her heroic husband, and all she has now to connect her and him in his last perishing moments. Some men would have sent themselves in the boat to their wives—but the gallant Herndon, though in the midst of peril and death, forgot not to send this touching relic to his wife, whilst at the same time he devoted himself to duty and death.—N. Y. Express.

NEW YORK PAPERS IN PARIS.—The New York papers are received in Paris with great regularity, and for a long time before. They are seldom stopped at the post office. The reason assigned for this, is that they are so full of murders and other crimes that the government is quite willing to have them circulated, as a cure for the republican tendencies of the Parisians, whose own municipal regulations are so admirably calculated to secure the comfort, independence, safety and pleasure of the citizens.

MONEY AFFAIRS.

The Philadelphia Evening Bulletin says: "Wherever one goes—in the street, in the Exchange, in the hotels, in the theatres, and even to and from church, the common salutation has reference to the state of the times. 'There is a horrid, morbid disposition to creak,' to magnify evils, to imagine and predict them, which partakes somewhat of the common feeling when an epidemic prevails. It is a time of contagion, but the contagion affects the minds as much as it does the pockets of the community. But it has been our good fortune to meet with many who are not cast down by the prevailing embarrassments. 'They have done, and are doing, their best to sustain themselves; and with the consciousness of this comes a determination not to be gloomy and depressed, whatever may be the result. They have as hearty greetings as ever for their friends, and have their jokes on all subjects, even on the universal one of the hard times."

"It is this kind of spirit that we should like to see become general; for that will be one of the best means of hastening a return to prosperity. What we want is confidence, courage, determination, and cheerfulness. The country is rich and prosperous; the crops are enormous, and are coming forward rapidly; the flow of specie to Europe is checked, and we are receiving more than we send away. The financial calamities we have witnessed, and are still witnessing, are not the effects of a decline in the prosperity of the real wealth of the country. We have lived too fast, and felt so rich that some of us have speculated overmuch, and everything has thus become entangled. If the country had been poor there would have been nothing of the kind. We are now suffering from the effect of our excess, not from the effects of our poverty. The punishment is severe, but it cannot last long; and, in the meantime, there is no use in making it worse than it really is, and magnifying its severity by complaining and creaking. It should be borne manfully and courageously, and it will the sooner be over."

"There is one thing worthy of note in regard to the present excitement; it is totally unconnected with politics. In the pecuniary distress of 1837-9, the troubles were aggravated by the political feecibility that prevailed everywhere. Parties were arrayed against one another, and there was mutual hostility as well as mutual distrust. Now, however, there is nothing of the kind. People are all anxious; but they are at the same time determined to stand by one another and co-operate for the common good."

CORN AND HOES.—From carefully conducted experiments by different persons, it has been ascertained that one bushel of corn will make a little over 104 pounds of pork—gross. Taking the result as a basis, the following deductions are made, which all our farmers would do well to lay by for a convenient reference—That,

When corn costs 12½ cts. per bushel, pork costs 14 cts. per pound.

When corn costs 17c. per bushel, pork costs 2c. per pound.

When corn costs 25c. per bushel, pork costs 3c. per pound.

When corn costs 33c. per bushel, pork costs 4c. per pound.

When corn costs 50c. per bushel, pork costs 5c. per pound.

The following statements show what the farmer realizes for his corn when sold in the form of pork:

When pork sells for 3c. per pound, it brings 25c. per bushel in corn.

When pork sells for 4c. per pound, it brings 32c. per bushel in corn.

When pork sells for 5c. per pound, it brings 45c. per bushel in corn.

ROBERT OF THE U. S. MINT IN SAN FRANCISCO.—The San Francisco Herald of the 20th ult. states that Wm. Bein, who had been for some time employed in the coiners' department of the United States Mint in that city, was arrested on the previous day, on suspicion of having abstracted gold from the establishment. His apartment was searched, and about \$8,000 in gold found, together with deeds for property to near the value of \$20,000. He admitted his speculations, and restored \$3,300 of the amount. It was supposed from the wax in which the gold filings were found, that he committed the thefts by means of wax placed under the inlets of his boots, to which the gold, when trod upon, adhered. Since his arrest, he has acknowledged that he has been carrying on the pilfering ever since the establishment of the Mint in that city.

THE SLAVE TRADE.—A letter published in a London paper says that at Lagos, the greatest slave market in Africa, the supply of slaves is obtained by the king from the Jaboo country, where all prisoners of war are considered as slaves. The price paid by him is a robe of tobacco for two, the cost of the robe being twenty-five to thirty dollars. The dealer pays the king about sixty dollars for each slave—a young and well grown man bringing seventy-five dollars, while an inferior "piece of goods" brings from thirty to forty dollars. The writer states that in 1853 the cost of importation to Havana, was computed at about seventy-five dollars each, and that they brought in that city about one thousand dollars each while in Brazil they would bring only five hundred dollars. He furnishes a tabular statement, showing that eight hundred slaves in Havana realized about \$800,000—the expenses being computed at \$63,075, and the clear profit at \$736,925.

A Western paper offers to write 'Mr.' before, or 'Esq.' after the names of such of its subscribers, in directing their papers to them, as will pay twenty-five cents extra, or add both of said handles for fifty cents extra. Cheap enough for a luxury.

A LIBERAL FEE.—The Creek Council have allowed Albert Pike \$130,000 for his services in prosecuting their claim.

BOB WALKER AND THE PRESIDENCY.

That Bob Walker is blazing out a road to the Presidency is hardly to be doubted. The following extract from the New York Herald's Washington letter of the 21st, is well worth the attention of the Southern supporters of Walker. Read:

The Kansas policy of Robert J. Walker has received the particular attention of the New York Herald, and your defense of his course in connection with the Administration has not failed of its good effects in the right quarters. The Herald has also hinted on several occasions that Walker is an aspirant for the Presidency, and that the affairs of Kansas are the trump cards which he is trying to play so as to win the sweepstakes of 1860.

From a recent conversation with an intimate friend of Walker, I have reason to believe that the Governor has seriously affixed his attentions upon the White House, and that out of Kansas he expects to achieve wonders. I understand that to this end his wishes and his intentions are to make Kansas a free State through the enforcement of the terms of the Kansas-Nebraska bill, and that with this consummation he expects the reconstruction of parties indicated by the Herald, and that the new party of national conservatives, opposed to both Northern and Southern slavery agitators, will find in Robert J. Walker and his doings in Kansas the very man and the very platform they desire, especially as Mr. Buchanan will be out of the way, and probably Col. Fremont. Should this be so, Governor Walker will only have such men as Douglas, Hunter, Seward, Jeff. Davis, to contend against, and such as these it is thought it will not be very hard to beat.

The Herald indorses editorially the views of its correspondent as follows:

Before accepting his responsible office, Gov. Walker had doubtless discovered that anything approaching an adhesion to the terms of the Kansas-Nebraska bill would result in making Kansas a free State, from the overwhelming numerical ascendancy of the free State settlers in the territory. In accepting, therefore, the chair of Mr. Buchanan in his guide, the course of the Governor was at once defined—the result became certain—and, from his crowning advantages, superior to all the trials and embarrassments which might delay its accomplishment. The admission of Kansas as a free State, through the fairly applied organic law of popular sovereignty, it was evident, at the outset, would break up the present relations of our political parties; but it was equally manifest to the necessary observer of causes and effects, that in necessary reconstruction of parties the ascendancy would accrue to the conservatives acquiescing in the free State solution of the Kansas problem. This, then, is the position of Governor Walker. He anticipates, as we anticipate, the disruption of the Southern Democracy from the admission of Kansas as a free State.

SCOTT AND PILLOW.—Notwithstanding the utter demolition of the remarkable stories of General Gideon J. Pillow by General Hitchcock—and notwithstanding Ex-President Tyler has finished off Hitchcock's work by a flat denial of the half million story, we observe that Gen. Scott also has come out in a public manifesto, in which the immaculate Gideon catches it worse and worse. Inasmuch as Pillow's story has already been discredited in all its length and breadth, we deem it altogether unnecessary to publish Gen. Scott's reply in detail. The following extract contains a general denial of the charges:

I do not propose to present to disturb Gen. Pillow's self-laudation, nor to reply to his animadversions on my plans and operations, although he most provokingly mixes up in every statement a small grain of truth with a large portion of fiction, so as to give it, with the careless, all the effect of gross falsehood. If such tricks can influence the public mind to my prejudice, I shall then begin to regret that I was born an American.

In reference to Pillow's declaration of the payment of money to Santa Anna, Gen. Scott answers as follows:

I am very sure that Mr. Trist had not a dollar of public money in his possession while in Mexico, and never more than sufficient for his very moderate expenses. In his private papers, and I certify to him that I never, at any time, paid to Gen. Santa Anna, or caused to be paid to him, or to another for his use or benefit, one dollar or more, on any account or in any way whatever. President Santa Anna was at the time, as now, worth millions, and had, in that office, the irresponsible control of all the pecuniary means of his country. It is hardly probable therefore that he would have stooped to pick up as much as ten thousand dollars in gold if he had accidentally stumbled upon one in a private walk.

This, with Hitchcock's evidence we should think, is sufficient to discredit the whole of Gen. Pillow's very remarkable history of the secret negotiations of the Mexican war.

THE HAND WRITING ON THE WALL.—A critical correspondent of the New Orleans Picayune contends that the correct reading of this quotation is according to the punctuation of the caption, and not as it is almost universally read, so as to convey the idea only of the miraculous hand-writing or penmanship on the wall. We quite agree with the writer, that "it was evidently the hand, writing on the wall, and not what was written, that frightened the impious king, Belshazzar"—especially as he did not know what was written at the time of his fear, nor until after it was translated by the prophet.

RACINO.—Mr. Ten Brock, who went to England with his stable of racers to take the starch out of the "natives," has been defeated on every field. He went out to shave and comes home shorn.

The English papers state that the venerable John Hickling, the last race of Methodist preachers sent into the work by Mr. John Wesley, and who is now in the 60th year of his ministry, and the 92d of his age, preached in Liverpool at the recent session of the Wesleyan Conference in that city.

A STEAM WAGON.—For the five hundredth time we make the announcement of an invention by which wagons may be driven by steam. It is said that F. C. Bartlett & Brother, of Springfield, Mass., have just completed a steam wagon for use on common roads. The wagon will seat eighteen or twenty persons, and it is expected to be able to travel anywhere from ten to twenty miles an hour. It will, no doubt, have the fate of its predecessors.

PICTURES OF MEMORY.

BY ALICE GARY.

Among the beautiful pictures
That hang on Memory's wall,
Is one of a dim old forest,
That seems the best of all;
Not for its gnarled oak sides,
Dark with the mistletoe;
Not for its violet golden
That sprinkles the vale below;
Not for the milk-white lilies
That lean from the fragrant hedge,
Coquetting all day with the sunbeams,
And stealing her golden edge,
Not for the vines on the upland,
Where the bright red berries rest,
Nor the pink, nor the pale sweet cowslip,
It seems to me the best.

I once had a little brother,
With eyes that were dark and deep—
In the lap of that dim old forest
He lieth in peace asleep.
As the light of immortal beauty,
Free as the winds that blow,
We roved there the beautiful summer—
The summer of long ago;
But his feet on the hills grew weary,
And one of those autumn eves,
I made for my little brother
A bed on the yellow leaves.

Sweetly his pale arms folded,
My neck in a neck embrace,
As the light of immortal beauty,
Silently covered his face;
And when the arrows of sunset
Lodged in the tree-tops bright,
He fell in his saint-like beauty,
Asleep by the gates of light.

Therefore, of all the pictures
That hang on Memory's wall,
That one of the dim old forest
Seems the best of all.

WHAT DO THESE THINGS MEAN?—We find the following in a late number of the New York Evangelist:

Vermont, one of the most purely agricultural States in the Union, exhibits sad evidence of religious indifference. The annual report of the general convention in that State discloses the following fact, published in the Congregationalist (N. H.) Journal: "More than twenty thousand families in Vermont habitually neglect all public worship; only about one-fifth of the people in the average attend upon evangelical worship, and four-fifths of the inhabitants on each returning Lord's day are absent from the sanctuary. What do these things mean? Making all due allowance for the necessary absence of those who, in the Providence of God cannot be present, there ought to be at least three-fifths instead of one-fifth of the people at public worship. Where, then, are the one hundred and fifty thousand souls that ought to be in the house of God every Sabbath? What are their thoughts and deeds on God's holy day?"

The Boston Courier has the following comments on the above:

"The New York Evangelist (a religious paper inclining to anti-slavery) ought not to ask: 'What do these things mean?' as if the reason were not perfectly obvious. That Abolitionism would inevitably lead to such a sad result, has been preached upon the house-tops. The Courier, with other conservative journals, has never ceased to urge entreaties and warnings upon the subject for a year past. Many of the clergy, with a zeal quite surpassing their religious ministrations, have entered into Abolitionism in the pulpit, directly or indirectly; and out of the pulpit have too often set examples of partisanship to their people. Abolitionism is not religion; but, like all other fanaticisms, it is an absorbing delusion. The human mind cannot be full of one engrossing topic and find room for another. The consequence is, that Abolitionism in Vermont, and elsewhere, has excluded Christianity. The process of operation is first, lukewarmness, then neglect of religious duties, then disbelief. And yet the New York Evangelist, adopting the report of the convention, innocently asks, 'What do these things mean?'"

AN EXTENSIVE RUN.—The Nashville Banner says, a gentleman living in one of the mountain counties of Middle Tennessee, heard on Tuesday of the suspension of the Bank of Nashville, and fearing a general crash was at hand, jumped in the stage and came post haste to Nashville to make a draw on one of our Banks. He arrived here yesterday and immediately hastened to College street and demanded the specie on his pile. Our friend Shepard met the demand with his usual bland smile; willing to meet a hundred thousand more such, and paid over to the gentleman a silver dollar, the amount of his note, without the least concern, and sent him away rejoicing.

GOLD.—The Philadelphia Press learns that within a few days the United States mint has received \$750,000 in refined bars of gold, and half a million more will also be forwarded to Philadelphia for coinage a few days hence. This fact is interesting in connection with the present rate of exchange, as a proof of the strong check given to the exportation of bullion by the extraordinary demand for it here. The refined bars are greatly preferable to coin for exportation, and the principal portion of shipments of bullion made to Europe have been in the shape, as the bars for that purpose, are not only more convenient, but less expensive.

SHOULD HAVE LIKED HIM FOR A BOARDER.—"How do you like the character of St. Paul?" asked a parson of his landlady one day, during a conversation about the old saints and apostles. "Ah, he was a good, clever old soul, I know," replied the landlady. "For he once said, you know, that we must eat what is set before us, and ask no questions, for conscience' sake. I always thought I should like him for a boarder."

An Irishman who was troubled with the toothache determined to have the old fender extracted; but there being no dentist near, he resolved to do the job himself, whereupon he filled the excavation with powder, and being afraid to touch it off, put a slow match to it, then ran to get out of the way.

There is one satisfaction in owning a close mouth—it retains all the foolish as well as the wise words of one's heart.

A SENTIMENT FOR THE SEASON.—Punch says that the trees, with the modesty of nature, knowing that they are about to be stripped of their robes of foliage, and stand naked before the world, will soon commence to change color.

MRS. STOWE ON SPIRITUALISM.

In the Independent of last week, Harriet Beecher Stowe thus expresses her sentiments upon a warmly-controverted subject:

"Nothing about the doom of death is so dreadful as this dead, inflexible silence.—Could there be, after the passage of the river, one backward signal, one last word, the heart would be appeased. There is always something left unsaid, even when death has come deliberately and given full warning.—How much more when it has fallen like the lightning, and the beloved has been wrenched from life, without a parting look or word.—There are those who would have us think that in our day there are means which have the power to restore us to the communion of our lost ones. How many a heart, wrung and tortured with the anguish of this fearful silence, has thrashed with strange, vague hopes at the suggestion! When we hear, sometimes of persons of the strongest and clearest minds becoming credulous votaries of certain spiritualistic circles, let us not wonder. If we inquire, we shall almost always find that the belief has followed some stroke of death.—It is only an indication of the desperation of that heart-hunger which in part assuages. Ah, were it true! were it indeed so that the wall between the spiritual and material is growing thin, and a new dispensation germinating, in which communion with the departed blest shall be among the privileges and possibilities of our mortal state! Ah, were it so that when we go forth weeping in the gray dawn, bearing spices and odors which we long to pour forth for the beloved dead, we should indeed find the stone rolled away, and an angel sitting on it!

"But for us, the stone must be rolled away by an unquestionable angel, whose countenance is as the lightning, who executes no doubtful juggle by pale moonlight or starlight, but rolls back the stone in fair, open morning, and sits on it. Then we could bless God for his mighty gift, and with love, and awe, and reverence, take up that blessed fellowship with another life, and weave it reverently and trustfully into the web of our daily course. But no such angel have we seen—no such sublime, unquestionable, glorious manifestation. And when we look at what is offered to us—ah, who that had a friend in heaven could wish him to return in such wise as this! The very instinct of a sacred sorrow seems to forbid that our beautiful, our glorified ones, should stoop lower than even to the medium of their cast-off bodies to juggle, and rap, and squeak, and perform mountebank tricks with tables and chairs, to recite over in weary sameness harmless truisms which we were wise enough to say for ourselves, to trifle, and banter, and jest, or to lead us through endless moonshiny mazes, and solemnly we say, that if this be communion with the dead, we had rather be without it. We want something a little in advance of our present life, and not below it. We have read, with some attention, weary pages of spiritual communication professing to come from Bacon, Swedenborg, and others, and long accounts from divers spirits of things seen in the spirit-land, and we can conceive of no more appalling prospect than to have them true. If the future life is so weary, stale, flat and unprofitable, as we might infer from those readings, one would have reason to deplore an immortality from which no suicide could give an outlet. To be condemned to such eternal prosing would be worse than annihilation."

AIN POKSON.—People have often said that no difference can be detected in the analysis of pure and impure air. This is one of the vulgar errors difficult to dislodge from the public brain. The fact is, that the condensed air of a crowded room gives a deposit, which, if allowed to remain a few days, forms a solid, thick, glutinous mass, having a strong odor of animal matter. If examined by the microscope, it is seen to undergo a remarkable change. First of all, it is converted into vegetable growth, and this is followed by the production of multitudes of animals; a decisive proof that it must contain organic matter, otherwise it could not nourish organic beings. This was the result arrived at by Dr. Angus Smith, in his beautiful experiments on the Air and Water of towns; where he showed how the lungs and skin gave out organic matter, which in itself a deadly poison, producing headache, sickness, disease, or epidemic, according to its strength.—Why, if a few drops of the liquid matter, obtained by the condensation of the air of a foul locality, introduced into the vein of a dog, can produce death by the insalubrious phenomena of typhus fever, what incalculable evil must not it produce on those human beings who breathe it again and again, rendered fouler and less capable of sustaining life with every breath drawn? Such contamination of the air, and consequent hot-bed of fever and epidemic, it is easily within the power of man to remove. Ventilation and cleanliness will do all, so far as the abolition of this evil goes, and ventilation and cleanliness are not minuscules to be prayed for, but certain results of common obedience to the laws of God.

"You and I are much alike," said the beggar to the banker. "How so?" "We both contrive to live on the labors of others." "But I carry on a lawful business for a living," said the banker. "So do I," said the beggar; "but there is this difference—I get the property of others with their consent, you get their property without their consent."

THE PANIC AFFECTING THE PRICE OF TOBACCO.—The Richmond Examiner observes that the tobacco trade of Virginia has centered in New York, owing to the present banking system, and brings facts and figures to show that this interest is already feeling with a vengeance the pressure now raging in the great commercial emporium of the country. Tobacco of the quality which ten days ago sold in Richmond for fifteen, seventeen and twenty dollars, sold on Thursday for ten, twelve and fourteen dollars, and the market falling